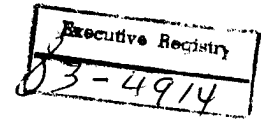


The Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505



12 OCT 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable W. Paul Thayer  
Deputy Secretary of Defense

SUBJECT: U-2R/TR-1 Fleet

12 OCT 1983

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*Cell 29*

1. It has come to our attention that the Air Force has proposed terminating the TR-1 Program at 19 aircraft vice the 35 originally programmed. To meet requirements for Europe in a crisis or war, the Air Force proposes to rely on the U-2R fleet in the NFIP to supplement the 19 aircraft TR-1 fleet. I cannot address the military requirement for the TR-1, but wish to state our view on the Air Force proposal to rely on the U-2R fleet for a European contingency.

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2. The DCI has been striving to restore the U-2R fleet to a total of 12 (backed by two trainers). This is the minimum number needed to support peacetime requirements, with a surge capacity to meet requirements in a crisis situation not involving Central Europe. In the case of a crisis or war in Central Europe, we anticipate an increased requirement for contingency strategic reconnaissance by the U-2R in such peripheral areas as Korea and the Middle East. Therefore, the DCI cannot agree, a priori, to planned reliance on the U-2R fleet to provide attrition fillers for the TR-1 mission in Europe.

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3. It does make sense, as the Air Force proposes, to provide common wiring for the U-2R fleet and the TR-1s. This would allow airframe management flexibility for SAC in peacetime and allow the DCI and the Secretary of Defense to allocate assets in crises or wartime as circumstances dictate at that time.

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4. Since these issues are likely to be discussed during your upcoming trip to Europe, I felt that you should be aware of our position. If we can be of any further assistance on this issue, please let me know.

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/S/ John N. McMahon

John N. McMahon



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